

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (previously amended):

A woodworking machine comprising:

a support frame including a work surface for supporting workpieces;

a cutting tool supported by the frame and movable relative to the work surface to cut the workpieces supported by the work surface; and

a safety brake system configured to detect contact between a person and the cutting tool, and to stop movement of the cutting tool upon detection of the contact, wherein the safety brake system comprises:

a cartridge removably coupled to the support frame; and

one or more single-use components mounted in the cartridge and adapted to be used upon detection of the contact.

Claim 2 (original):

The machine of claim 1, where the cartridge is sealed against entry of sawdust.

Claims 3-5 (cancelled without prejudice).

Claim 6 (previously amended):

The machine of claim 1, where the one or more single-use components include a brake pawl selectively movable to engage the cutting tool upon detection of the contact, and where at least a portion of the brake pawl is mounted in the cartridge.

Claim 7 (original):

The machine of claim 6, where the safety brake system includes a spring mounted in the cartridge and arranged to urge the brake pawl into contact with the cutting tool.

Claims 8-9 (cancelled without prejudice).

Claim 10 (original):

The machine of claim 1, further comprising at least one motor configured to drive the cutting tool, and a control system configured to determine if at least one of the single-use components mounted in the cartridge has been used, and where the control system is configured to prevent operation of the at least one motor if one of the single-use components has been used.

Claim 11 (original):

The machine of claim 1, where the cartridge includes key structure, and where the support frame includes corresponding key structure configured to engage the cartridge key structure to prevent incorrect installation of the cartridge.

Claims 12-19 (cancelled without prejudice).

Claim 20 (previously new):

The machine of claim 1, wherein the cartridge includes at least two single-use components that are formed from different materials and have different constructions.

Claim 21 (previously new):

The machine of claim 20, wherein at least one of the single-use components is an electrical component.

Claim 22 (previously new):

The machine of claim 20, wherein at least one of the single-use components is adapted to engage and stop the cutting tool after detection of the contact.

Claim 23 (previously new):

The machine of claim 1, wherein the cutting tool includes a cutting surface and at least one of the single-use components is adapted to engage the cutting surface of the cutting tool to stop the cutting tool after detection of the contact.

Claim 24 (currently amended):

The machine of claim 1, wherein the cartridge includes a brake pawl and a housing defining an internal compartment having an opening, and further wherein the cartridge includes a biasing mechanism within the compartment and adapted to urge the brake pawl in a direction generally away from the opening, ~~and further wherein the one or more single-use components includes a fusible member within the compartment and adapted to restrain the biasing mechanism from urging the brake pawl in the direction generally away from the opening until after the contact is detected.~~

Claim 25 (currently amended):

The machine of claim 24 25, wherein the ~~cartridge includes at least a pair of linkages interconnecting the brake pawl and the fusible member prior to detection of the contact~~ biasing mechanism is a spring positioned to extend at least partially through the opening when urging the brake pawl in a direction generally away from the opening.

Claim 26 (currently amended):

The machine of claim 24 25, wherein the brake pawl is adapted to move relative to the cartridge upon detection of the contact and urging of the brake pawl in the direction generally away from the opening.

Claim 27 (previously new):

The machine of claim 6, wherein the brake pawl and the cartridge include concentric bores adapted to couple the cartridge and the brake pawl to the support frame for pivotal movement relative to each other after the contact is detected.

Claim 28 (previously new):

A woodworking machine comprising:

a support frame including a work surface for supporting workpieces;

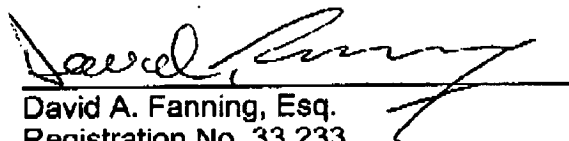
a cutting tool supported by the frame and movable relative to the work surface to cut the workpieces supported by the work surface; and

a safety brake means for detecting contact between a person and the cutting tool, and for stopping stop movement of the cutting tool upon detection of the contact, wherein the safety brake means comprises a cartridge removably coupled to the support frame and one or more single-use components mounted in the cartridge and adapted to be used upon detection of the contact.

The examiner is invited to call the undersigned if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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David A. Fanning